

Seppe Cassettari suggests that applying some joined up thinking in the conveyancing process could plug existing gaps in data consistency, currency and quality

dates the 2004 purchase and a conservatory built by the current owners. Neither of these features are depicted on the latest MasterMap database. Also, the garage is shown as a separate building, but is actually linked. Now we have currency and quality issues as well.

There are no roof details or information such as number of floors or any other descriptors that might make the polygons more valuable in MasterMap. And, of course, there is no internal information.

## Towards a better geo-record

Maintaining an up-to-date large-scale topographic layer requires considerable time and effort. OS would probably argue that this level of detail and degree of change is outside its current remit. Given that by virtue of putting the property on the market much of this enhanced detail is now public knowledge, perhaps it could be integrated to produce a better geo-record of the property?

This does raise the question of who owns the internal plans - the surveyor, the estate agent or the home owner (either the current or all future owners), but this is surely resolvable, and then the plans could be merged with the base map.

base map.
In fact the surveyor should be able to
generate internals based on the external
footprint and return to OS for standardisation

## Joined-up thinking required

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A bit of joined-up thinking is required here. By
formalising a system of data collection where
sharing is an accepted part of the process,
we can create a property 'geo-passport'. This
would probably be managed by Ordnance
Survey or H.M. Land Registry, but with certain
responsibilities placed on the property owner
and the planning authorities to generate and

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